



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel

At its meeting held November 12, 2003, the Board took the following action:

56-C

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles (MIRT) is a traffic signal preemption device used to change traffic signals from red to green in seconds. This inexpensive device requires virtually no installation and can easily be moved from vehicle to vehicle.

“While the purpose of this unit is to facilitate expedient and safe passage through intersections for authorized emergency personnel only, such as the police, fire and paramedics, recently, MIRT has been obtained over the internet by private individuals for their own private use. This is not only a violation of the restricted use/sale intended for MIRT but also poses a public safety concern.

“According to MIRT’s website, the regulation of legal users may vary from state to state and local to local governing bodies. Additionally, the traffic lights must be equipped with the technology that receives the Traffic Signal Preemption signal.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to seek out legislation that prohibits private ownership and/or restricts the sale of Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles (MIRT), a traffic signal preemption device used to change traffic signals from red to green in seconds;

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56-C (Continued)

2. Agreed to seek and/or support legislation that prohibits private ownership and/or restricts the sale of a Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles; and
3. Instructed County Counsel to work with the Sheriff, Fire Chief and Director of Public Works, and report back to the Board within 30 days to determine the feasibility of adopting a local ordinance that would restrict the sale and prohibit private ownership of a Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Sheriff

Fire Chief

Director of Public Works